

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On Page 1, before Line 5 of the Specification, please insert the following paragraph:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/720,377, filed April 12, 2001, which is a 35 U.S.C. § 371 national stage application of Patent Cooperation Treaty ("PCT") Application No. FR99/01525, filed June 24, 1999; which claims priority to French Patent Application Serial No. 98/08,171, filed June 26, 1998, which applications are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

Please delete the paragraph beginning at Page 16, Line 8, and ending at Line 11, of the Specification and replace it with the following:

**Brief Description of the Drawings**

Figure 1: Change in the turbidity of a copolymer according to the invention and of a control (methylcellulose) as a function of the temperature.